

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A distal tip electrode adapted for implantation on or about the heart and for connection to a system for monitoring or stimulating cardiac activity, said electrode comprising:

an electrode tip;

a mesh screen disposed at a distal end of the electrode tip;

a surface at the distal end of the electrode tip;

a ~~fixation device~~ helix disposed within said electrode, said ~~fixation device~~ helix adapted for travel along a radial axis of the electrode through said surface, the ~~fixation device~~ helix including ~~an~~ non-soluble insulating material coated on at least a portion of its surface to conform to the outer surface of the helix, the insulating material including an active ingredient;

a guiding mechanism for directing movement of the fixation device during travel; and

a movement assembly, said movement assembly for providing movement to said fixation device.

2. (Currently Amended) The distal tip electrode as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~fixation device~~ helix comprises a fixation helix.

3. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode as recited in claim 1, wherein said movement assembly comprises a piston and a base.

4. (Original) The distal tip electrode as recited in claim 3, wherein the piston has a slot therein, and the base further comprises a knob, said slot for mating with said knob.

5. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode as recited in claim 4, wherein the slot is mated with said knob to form a stop mechanism for said fixation device.

6. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode as recited in claim 1, wherein the guiding mechanism includes a groove guide disposed within the mesh screen.

7. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode as recited in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient includes a medication.

8. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode of claim 1, wherein the active ingredient includes an anti-inflammatant, an anti-biotic, or an analgesic.

9. (Currently Amended) A lead and pulse generator system comprising:

a pulse generator;

a an endocardial lead body including an electrode disposed along the lead body, the lead couplable to a the pulse generator to deliver signals via the electrode; and

an active fixation ~~device~~ helix disposed at a distal end of the lead body, the fixation ~~device~~ helix including ~~an~~ a non-soluble insulating material coated on at least a portion of its surface, the insulating material including an active ingredient.

10. (Previously Presented) The lead of claim 9, wherein the fixation device is adapted for travel along a radial axis of the lead body.

11. (Previously Presented) The lead of claim 9, including a mesh screen disposed at a distal end of the lead body.

12. (Currently Amended) The lead of claim 9, wherein the ~~fixation device includes a helix~~ active ingredient includes an anti-inflammatant.

13. (Previously Presented) The lead of claim 9, wherein the active ingredient includes a medication.

14. (Previously Presented) The lead of claim 9, wherein the active ingredient includes an anti-inflammatant, an anti-biotic, or an analgesic.

15. (Previously Presented) The lead of claim 9, wherein the active ingredient includes an anti-inflammatant, an anti-biotic, an analgesic, a pain-reducing medication, a vitamin, or an anti-viral medication.

16. (Currently Amended) A distal tip electrode adapted for implantation on or about the heart and for connection to a system for monitoring or stimulating cardiac activity, said electrode comprising:

an electrode tip;

a mesh screen disposed at a distal end of the electrode tip;

a surface at the distal end of the electrode tip; and

a fixation ~~device~~ helix disposed within said electrode, said fixation ~~device~~ helix adapted for travel along a radial axis of the electrode through said surface, the fixation ~~device~~ helix including ~~an~~ a non-soluble insulating material coated on at least a portion of its outer surface so as to conform to the outer surface of the helix, the insulating material including an active ingredient.

17. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode of claim 16, wherein the active ingredient includes a medication.

18. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode of claim 16, wherein the active ingredient includes an anti-inflammatant, an anti-biotic, or an analgesic.

19. (Previously Presented) The distal tip electrode of claim 16, wherein the active ingredient includes an anti-inflammatant, an anti-biotic, an analgesic, a pain-reducing medication, a vitamin, or an anti-viral medication.